

# NU HOU DALA PAA

NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

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## 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 50th ANNIVERSARY

BY KAZUMA OYAMA

This year, 1993, during March 24 - 28, men ranging in age from the late 60's to the 80's gathered in Waikiki to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 442nd Regimental combat Team. Although the 442nd was officially activated at Camp Shelby, Mississippi (near Hattiesburg) on February 1, 1943, the 442nd Veterans Club in Honolulu holds their annual observance on or around March 24th - the date that most of the Hawaii volunteers assembled at "Tent City" in Schofield Barracks. Although the mainland Niseis trickled into Camp Shelby from various army posts and detention camps, the Hawaii contingent arrived as a group in early May.

At times the 442nd is referred to as the 442nd Infantry. Although the namesake "442nd" had as its nucleus three infantry battalions, as a regimental combat team it also had the 522nd Artillery Battalion, 232nd Combat Engineer Company as well as its own 206th Army Band. It also had its own Anti-tank Company, Cannon Company, a Medical Detachment and Service Company.

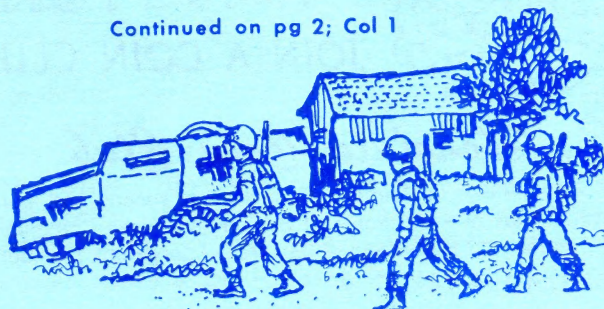
Although the infantry battalions earned the most "glory" they were closely supported by all elements of the Combat Team. In fact the 232nd Combat Engineers were up front with the infantry companies during the much publicized rescue of the "lost" battalion of the Texas 36th

Division and is specifically named in the Presidential Unit Citation awarded the 442nd for this action. The Anti-tank Company is unique in that they earned both the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Glider Badge for their participation by gliders in the invasion of southern France while attached to the First Airborne Task Force.

The 522nd Artillery Battalion was noted for its pin-point accuracy and as a consequence ended the war providing artillery support to other units in the invasion of Germany while the rest of the 442nd Combat Team was ordered back to Italy. Notably missing from their combat history until a few years ago was their participation in the release of Jewish prisoners from the Dachau Concentration Camp.

While in France the 442nd was attached to the 36th Texas Division. During earlier campaigns in Italy the Combat Team was attached to the 34th "Red Bull" Division and fought alongside such other crack troops of the 3rd, 45th, and 91st Infantry Divisions. Upon return to Italy the Combat Team was attached to 92nd "Buffalo" Infantry Division. This segregated Black 92nd Division traces its combat record to the years following the Civil War when Black troops - both cavalry and infantry - distinguished themselves in the winning of the West.

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## 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

Continued from pg 1

In what was planned as a diversionary action on the western coast and mountains of Italy the 442nd was successful in scaling the 3,000 foot mountains to take the high grounds that subsequently led to a full scale and successful offensive which was, to quote General Dwight D. Eisenhower, "an important part in the final destruction of the German armies in Italy." It was during this final phase of the war in Italy that Senator Dan Inouye (then Lieutenant Inouye) lost his right arm and earned the Army Distinguished Service Cross while leading his platoon in an attack on entrenched German troops. One of the Italian towns taken by the 442nd during this final campaign was Carrara. The beautiful monument of the National cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl in Honolulu is constructed with white marble from the quarry in Carrara.

On the wall in the office of the 442nd Veterans Club in Honolulu hangs a proclamation from the State of Texas which proclaim members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team as Honorary Texans. It is signed by Texas governor John Connally. Collectors of U.S. paper money may be interested to know that this same signature appears as Secretary of the Treasury of the Series 1969-A, 1969-B, and 1969-C Federal Reserve notes.



**HAVE FUN!**  
**JOIN A COIN CLUB!**

### *Honolulu Coin Club*

The Honolulu Coin Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Susannah Wesley Community Center at 1117 Kaili Street, 7:30 p.m. Gregory Hunt, president.



## COIN DEALERS WHO HELP JUNIORS

SERIES #1

BY JAMES SILVA

Hi, I am James Silva and one of two HCC Junior Advisors for 1992-93. My cohort in this endeavor is Gary Lau. The junior club is comprised of about six girls and one boy. We meet every time the HCC meets. That means every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at Susannah Wesley Community Center.

We have had many benefactors who have underwritten the HCC Juniors. Today, I would like to take the time to recognize one of these dealers. In the future I intend to continue writing about others who have also helped us.

In 1989 I was introduced to a dealer from Sacramento, California by our President Greg Hunt. His name was Dick Armstrong. While walking with some juniors at the time, Dick pulled out a roll of uncirculated Roosevelt dimes and gave every kid their pick of the coins he had spread out. I was very happy with this generous act, not realizing that this was to be one of many generous acts by Dick. I, myself, started to get the numismatic bug and dealt with Dick from that moment on. He has become a personal friend and keeps in touch via telephone and many visits during the year. During each visit he brings the juniors more new and interesting coins.

What separates Dick from all the rest is that he will spend his valuable dealer time during our show to explain things to our juniors or to anyone who comes to his table to ask a question. He has even offered to give a talk to the juniors if we can schedule it during one of our regular meetings.

I know that Dick Armstrong is interested in the future of coin collecting as a hobby because he generously supports that future in Hawaii. The future is our juniors. Mahalo Dick Armstrong!

Aloha & pau.





WOODEN TOKEN  
NO. 12



*The*

# Hawaiian Bat

BY CHARLES MATSUDA

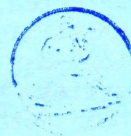
The bat has always been either a hero or sinister foe. During my youth I recall reading about them in the comics, watching them in the movies, and listening to stories on the radio. The most super hero would be "Batman" the Caped Crusader. I remember a serial of fifteen chapters that I watched at the Royal Theaters. In this serial Batman fought the Axis spies during World War II. I can never forget watching fourteen of them and missing (the fifteen) the last and most important chapter, being home with the mumps. Then there was that villain, that sinister figure called the Vampire Bat. He was always played by Bela Lugosi. In one of the movies it was so terrifying that after I saw the movie I covered my face with a blanket when I went to sleep at night for several days.

The Hawaiian Endangered Wildlife No. 12 features the Hawaiian Hoary Bat on the wooden token. Known as 'ope'ape'a, (meaning flutter wings) these bats can be found on Kauai, Maui, and on the Big Island. But due to progress and most of them spend the daytime hours resting, very few have been known to be seen. They become active in the late afternoon hours to after sunset foraging for insects. The Bats are reddish brown or grayish in color and have a wing span of about 12 inches or more.

On the reverse of the wood is a Hawaiian flower called 'Ohi'a-ha, a flower that comes from a native forest tree with abundant red fruit. They look like red strawberry guavas from a distance. The fruit is not tasty, but it is edible. The leaves are dark green in color, oval shape and glossy on top.

To order the woods, please send a SASE and 50 cents per wood to: Honolulu Coin Club, P.O. Box 6063, Honolulu, Hawaii 98618. If your order is for more than one wood, please add extra postage so you will receive the wood, instead of it ending up at the dead letter file at the Post Office in San Francisco. Mahalo.

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE COIN CLUBS OF HAWAII



### BIG ISLAND COIN CLUB

November 1992: The coin auction held on November 1st was a major success. Over \$15,000 was raised. The auction also brought out a handful of potential new members for the club. Auction chairman Walt Southward expressed his appreciation to all who helped. Don Nigro, Tom Davidson, Rick Howsley, Alton Chow, Derrick Ah Sing, and Walt Southward were in attendance at the HSNA show at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel. The club has an interesting set of coin essays by dealer Tom Becker available for loan to our members.

December 1992: Four new members were admitted at the meeting. Long-ago member Carlton Cherrigan rejoining and new members Bill Gormon, Hunter Bishop, and PJ Couvillion. Other highlights of the evening included reflections by Derrick Ah Sing, Don Nigro, Tom Davidson, Rick Howsley, and Walt Southward on their impressions of the 1992 HSNA Coin Show on

Continued on pg 6; Col 1 **COIN CLUBS HIGHLIGHTS**



# HAWAII STATE CONVENTION ATTRACTS 1,841 COLLECTORS

BY HELEN CARMODY

The Hawaii State Numismatic Association held its 29th annual convention November 12-15 at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel on Oahu. Despite tentative trading at recent major shows on the mainland, collectors came out in full force for the state's major numismatic event of the year. Extensive publicity attracted over 1,841 collectors, up almost 10% from last year.

The sold-out 64-table bourse had over 100 dealers sharing tables and others on a waiting list. Obviously, those who participated in the show carefully selected a wide range of diversified material to appeal to attendees. At the four-day event there seemed to be no series that was particularly stronger than others. Buyers sought Hawaiiana, commemoratives, gold, copper, and type. Collectors enthusiastically viewed displays at every table, and dealers were busy not only selling their material but sharing their expertise as well.

(We regret due to space limitations we are unable to print any of the many, many comments made by dealers, ANA representatives, and collectors about the show - the editor)

Exhibits were a highlight of the convention. Charles Matsuda's display was "Christmas & Santa, consisting of two cases of numismatic and collectible items. "Two Bit Mistakes - U.S. Quarter Dollar Errors and Varieties," consisting of six cases of planchet, die striking, pre-1932 pieces, Bicentennial pieces, and multiple errors, was prepared by James A. Simek. W.K. Young exhibited error specimens entitled "Odds & Ends Federal Reserve Notes." Two cases displaying HSNA medals and first-day covers comprised Crane Saito's exhibit, "The Monarchs of Hawaii."

"Gaming Tokens," an exhibit of obsolete metal and plastic gaming chips was

prepared by Francis Ushiroda. Rounds, pins, badges, stamps, medals, and miscellaneous items made up "Soccerasaurus," Holly Lau's display. Gary Lau exhibited beautifully toned coins, one of the most diverse and collectible areas in numismatics, with "All the Colors in the Rainbow," palm trees, clouds, and the sun portrayed in gleaming colors were the background for the exhibit of dollars, commemorative halves, and other coins. Hawaiian first-day covers, medals, and pictures depicting the 100th anniversary of America's National Parks was James P. Hart's exhibit entitled "City of Refuge." Dennis Tomiyasu prepared two exhibits: "Hawaiian Tokens," which consisted of a variety of transportation, hospital, school, military, and business tokens, and "Coins for the Kingdom of Hawaii," pertaining to rare Hawaiian coins including patterns and off-metal silver and copper Eighth Dollar and the "so called" Huth Dollar. These exhibits are displayed at the convention solely for educational purposes and are not competitive in nature. Exhibitors are awarded a unique, pewter medal.

Door prizes were presented during the four-day event, and the two grand prizes, \$5 Liberty gold pieces, were both won by Honolulu Coin Club juniors: Carey Anne Izuo and Celeste Vonwronski.

This year the reverse of the show medal (No. 5 of the HSNA's Hawaiian Island series) honors the veterans of Hawaii's 100th Infantry Battalion and celebration of the 50th anniversary of its formation in June 1942. The Battalion's members chose "Remember Pearl Harbor" as its motto and preferred to be called by the Hawaiian pidgin - "One Puka Puka." The obverse features Father Damien's church at Kalaupapa to represent Molokai. 250 numbered and 50 unnumbered silver medals were produced in silver and bronze sets. The entire mintage was sold out by the end of the convention.

Wooden nickels, No. 11 in the series on Hawaiian Endangered Wildlife, depicting the Crested Honeykeeper and Christmas Berry, were produced in conjunction with the convention.

Continued next pg; col 1 CONVENTION



## CONVENTION Continued from pg 4.

HSNA officers were elected for the 1992-1993 year:

Greg Hunt.....	President
Glen Yokoyama.....	1st V. P.
Alton Chow.....	2nd V. P.
Gary Lau.....	Secretary
M. F. Kendrick.....	Treasurer
Charles Matsuda.....	HCC Rep.
W. K. Young.....	HCC Rep.
L. R. "Rick" Howsley.....	BICC Rep.
Walt Southward.....	BICC Rep.

All officers and ANA Regional Coordinator Helen L. Carmody attended the HSNA Board meeting on Saturday morning, November 14th, at which Junior Advisor, Gary Lau announced: "The Honolulu Coin Club has just enrolled seven new junior members, six girls and one boy. The YN's have been given 'homework assignments, and it is really satisfying to see how interested they are in coins."

The club's banquet took place Sunday evening, preceded by a no-host cocktail hour. Entertainment was provided by an Island Senior Citizen musical group, and Susanna Hunt performed several hula dances accompanied by the musicians. During the festivities Walt Southward of the Big Island Coin Club (Hilo) received the 1992 ANA Outstanding Club Representative Award, which was accepted on his behalf by Helen L. Carmody at the Orlando ANA convention in August. Adna G. Wilde, Jr., on behalf on the American Numismatic Association, presented L. R. "Rick" Howsley and Greg Hunt the ANA silver centennial medals for the Big Island and Honolulu Coin Clubs, respectively.

In a surprise moment during the evening's program, Greg Hunt was named the latest Krause Publications' Numismatic Ambassador by Charles G. Colver, Executive Secretary of the Numismatic Ambassador Program. Congratulations.

At the conclusion of the festivities, Greg Hunt announced to those attending the banquet that the Hawaii State Numismatic Association (including the Honolulu Coin Club and the Big Island Coin Club) would be endorsing the candidacy of Helen Carmody in the next

election for the ANA Board of Governors and presented her with a check from the state club to assist in her campaign. He also noted that this year's convention was dedicated to her in recognition of her years of service to the collectors in Hawaii and to numismatics in general.

The HSNA's 30th annual convention will be held November 11 - 14, 1993, at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel. For information write to HSNA, P.O. Box 477, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809.

Helen L. Carmody is the ANA Regional Coordinator responsible for the coin clubs in Hawaii and California. She is President of the Society for U.S. Commemorative Coins, a writer, and a exhibitor.

Thank you.

### BOYS AND GIRLS JOIN THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB



HAVE  
FUN!

Membership

**FREE!**

### HONOLULU COIN CLUB STATEHOOD DAY COIN SHOW

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**9:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

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**FREE PARKING**





## COIN CLUBS HIGHLIGHTS

Continued from pg 3; Col 2

Oahu. A selection of desserts brought in by members capped the evenings event. The club voted to make a \$100 contribution to the campaign of Helen Carmody, who is running for the Board of Governors of the ANA. The club also agreed to purchase more books on numismatics for the Hilo library based on Don Nigro's recommendation. Was great to see George Paiva, had been little under the weather. The club will plan to put out a medal in 1994 to commemorate its 30th anniversary.

January 1993: Oahu coin dealers Don Medcalf and Jim Simek were featured speakers at the meeting. Total of 23 members and guest were present. Kay Kozohara did triple duty at the meeting, reading minutes, taking minutes, and presiding in the absence of President Mildred Murakami. Mark Taketa and Patrick Ryan were new faces at the meeting. Three new books were presented to the Hilo library - book on half cents, copper cents, and Dr Sheldon's classic book on Large cents. Congratulations to new member Hunter Bishop on his Gem BU baby boy.

February 1993: Welcome to Mason Teter, latest new member of BICC, also joining was Oahu dealer Craig Watanabe. Sergeant-at-arms Byron Toma came to the rescue of the club with a television set and a VCR so that members could see the grading video tape. It was good to see Ed Haitzuka and his son, Brandon at the meeting. The membership approved to have the club strike 300 one-ounce silver medals for 1994 - 30th anniversary.

March 1993: A Hawaiian Dollar in very fine condition, the first seen in Big Island auction circles in recent years, brought \$260 at the March auction. Some 24 BICC members and guests watched the auction with a great deal of interest. The second half of a video on grading coins was shown at the meeting. It was good to see the smiling face George Paiva and new faces Juanito Velez, Daniel Cobile, and Alan Okinaka at the meeting.

### HONOLULU COIN CLUB

November 1992: The meeting was held at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel. Our members

were able to meet and talk to the many dealers present. Delicious pupus and good music made it a very enjoyable event. Show chairperson, M. Kendrick wishes to thank everyone who helped make the HSNA Coin Show Convention a success. "My sincerest thank you and Mahalo."

December 1992: The HSNA Medals are all sold reports Greg Hunt, President of HSNA. Two new members joined the club. The annual Christmas party again was a tremendous success thanks to Charles Matsuda and his committee workers. Lots of good food, music, games, door prizes, and auction prizes. This outstanding event was enjoyed by over 90 members and guests. "Thank you all."

January 1993: HCC is in good financial shape reports Treasurer C. Matsuda, who give us the last quarter figures. J. Silva, Junior Advisor reports that the juniors will be making "milk covers" for their fund raising project. There will be a set of 10 - different colors. Short talks were given by two of our members; F. Loo spoke on the Indian Head penny of 1858 and 1859 and C. Matsuda spoke on milk covers - "the original" from local dairies.

February 1993: J. Silva gave a "show and tell" on how he got started on collecting milk covers and showed us the many different ones he has. Bob Cohn a long time member and dealer (from Maryland) was present. He said he is just visiting. Dan Farek of Texas, wrote and said he will be in Hawaii in June and wishes to speak at the June 23rd meeting.

March 1993: Finally received milk covers (for junior fund project), however only 600 sets were made, due to problems. Three new members joined the club - Jonathan C. Bly, Benny Stegall, and Charles Richieson, welcome and Mahalo.



## 1/2 OUNCE AMERICAN GOLD EAGLE

BY DAVID B. GERE

During the latter part of 1986, the U.S. Mint commenced production of an attractive new set of .900 fine gold coins that would sell in the bullion marketplace for a price near their intrinsic gold melt value. Four

Continued on pg 7 Col 1 **GOLD**



Continued from pg 6 **GOLD**

different uncirculated sizes were struck as legal tender coins with the following face values and weight:

FACE VALUE	GOLD WEIGHT
\$50.00	one-oz
25.00	half-oz
10.00	quarter-oz
5.00	one-tenth-oz

These coins were to be made in quantities each year that would roughly reflect the number of coins ordered by the U.S. Mint approved bullion buyers. A qualification program was instituted by the Mint to restrict the number of primary coin buyers to a few large quantity buyers. These primary dealers were expected to set up a distribution system that would supply smaller dealers who would then distribute the coins to the public. This is how the coins are currently sold. In addition, this market is a two-way market so that when the public decides to sell these coins, they can be liquidated back up through the same sales network to a primary buyer - but not all the way back to the Mint.

Enter the coin collector. With the mintage of American Gold Eagles (Eagles) completing their seventh year, many collectors are putting together type sets (one of each denomination), year sets (one of each denomination in the same year), or complete sets of all denominations and years. This is an excellent way to fulfill the collecting "need" that many of us have while, at the same time, accumulating a position in gold bullion at prices very near the actual intrinsic gold value of the coins.

If you haven't collected "Eagle" coins up to now, you might think that putting together a complete set of seven years worth of the four denominations is an easy task. Not so! This will turn out to be an adventuresome project due to the manner in which these coins are usually sold: by denomination or weight rather than by year. And, to make the hunt for specific coins more "fun," the Mint has produced as many as 1,362,650, 1986 dated \$50 denomination coins and as few as 24,100, 1991 dated \$25 coins.

Unfortunately, the Mint had sold out of 1990 dated coins by this time and the primary coin buyers had effectively done their job of distributing the coins

world-wide to coin dealers and jewelers alike. Due to the manner in which the coins were marketed by larger dealers, acquiring specifically dated Eagles was always most difficult. And the more that potential buyers demanded the 1990 1/2-oz Eagle, the more the dealers became aware of its scarcity. Prices rose, and they continue to rise at this time. This coin is tough to find.

How should the beginning Eagle collector attempt his or her collecting goal? Start by purchasing the lower mintage coins first, which is usually sound advice for any coin series. Get the 1990 1/2-oz now, then put together the balance of the collection as funds permit, but definitely before gold bullion prices significantly rise. And, don't forget gift giving over the holidays. These beautiful gold coins also come in proof condition, nicely packaged by the Mint, and make excellent presents for all occasions. (The-End)

The author is the President of Nevada Numismatics, Inc.

## IN MEMORIAL

We regret to inform you of the passing of several members of the club.

### Joseph James McGinn

Joseph James McGinn, 69, passed away on February 26, 1993.

### Robert E. Fry

Robert E. Fry, 71, a retired Hawaiian Electric Co. administrative assistant, died March 1 in Kaiser Hospital. Fry was born in Manchester, Iowa. He is survived by his wife Clara, sons Eldon J. and Earl E.; daughter Barbara Ann Webster. Mr. Fry was a long time club member, collector, and dealer. He will be missed by many of our club members and friends.

### Ronald Miller

We were saddened to hear of the death of Ronald Miller. Miller, 48, was found with a fatal gunshot wound in his shop in Fremont, California, on March 16th. He is survived by his wife Diana and three children. Miller was a club member and a dealer at the HSNA Show for many years. He was generous and will be missed by all.





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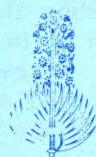
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